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21 January 1954

A/B/2, 10/84

MEMORANDUM

TO : Chief, Security Staff, [REDACTED] G
FROM : [REDACTED] A
SUBJECT: ARTICHOKE Project

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1. At present, the ARTICHOKE Team comprises of [REDACTED] on PCS and [REDACTED] on TDY for a period of six (6) months or less. A Technician assistant will arrive about 1 April 1954. The ARTICHOKE project has three primary functions to accomplish in the [REDACTED] area. G

I. ORIENTATION:

G It will be the duty of the ARTICHOKE Team to visit all principal stations, missions, and installations in the [REDACTED] area and orient the Chiefs of Missions, Stations or Installations concerned and any others as determined by the Security Chief, [REDACTED] on a "need-to-know" basis, as to the mission and purpose of the ARTICHOKE Team in the [REDACTED] area. In conjunction with the orientation, an inspection of the physical facilities and determination of the availability of indigenous groups will be performed by the ARTICHOKE Team for the purpose of conducting future operations and experiments as outlined below:

II. OPERATIONAL SUPPORT:

At present, the ARTICHOKE Team is fully prepared to cope with and render operational support as required through the use of appropriate drugs and/or hypnosis. New information can be extracted from a SUBJECT voluntarily

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or involuntarily with a maximum possibility of complete, if not partial, amnesia of the whole procedure conducted to secure that information. This would be directly applicable to indigenous individuals presently held in isolation or custody because of the inability to make a final determination as to their true loyalty and/or intentions. Also, operationally, this would be an adjunct to the interrogation procedures and techniques now in effect because of the applicability of ARTICHOKE procedures and techniques to an involuntary SUBJECT as long as controlled physical access to the SUBJECT can be obtained. No operation of this nature will be undertaken without the specific authority of the Chief of Security,

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III. DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH:

In view of the fact that all available knowledge and materials that are presently at the disposal of the ARTICHOKE Team pertains mainly to English speaking individuals, it is essential that the proper techniques and procedures be developed that would pertain to the different racial groups predominating in the [REDACTED]; namely, [REDACTED]

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All the available medical sources in the area; (e.g. hospitals, medical schools, and private practitioners) must be utilized and all the pertinent available material be compiled so as to minimize unnecessary expenditure of time, money and man power in pursuing something that has already been accomplished. All this will be done under appropriate cover.

When ARTICHOKE methods and techniques applicable to the different racial groups are completed according to the peculiar requirements related to language, racial and cultural background and philosophy of each group is concerned, then operational experiments and exercises can be performed

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on selected indigenous groups to determine the feasibility of the following objectives:

a. Use of ARTICHOKE as an offensive weapon; that through the use of hypnosis and post-hypnotic suggestions the SUBJECT, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, would perform acts as indicated and/or desired with complete amnesia of the procedures and techniques involved in obtaining that goal.

b. Use of ARTICHOKE as a defensive weapon; that through the use of hypnosis and post-hypnotic suggestions a suitable and effective security measure can be instituted beyond the control of an individual to safe-guard the disclosure of classified information. For example: Having a key word or thought containing information pertaining to a particular sensitive project act as the stimulus to induce unconsciousness. Or, to have classified information erased from a courier's memory until it is recalled at the appropriate time of delivery by a pre-arranged verbal, auditory, visual or physical stimulus acting as the key.

2. It is felt that Part I, ORIENTATION, will be accomplished within a reasonable length of time. In respect to Part II, OPERATIONAL SUPPORT, the ARTICHOKE Team is presently ready and able to render that support on call from the Operational Sections. Part III, DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH, like any development and research program, is a time-consuming, tedious process requiring careful planning and coordination. Estimation of the time required for this part of the project can not be made at present because of the insufficient information on hand to make that determination.

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APPROVED:
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